

Spectral Theorem for compact self-adjoint operators

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<http://www.u-bordeaux.fr/~pjaming/enseignement/M1.html>

Master Mathématiques et Applications
M1 Mathématiques fondamentales & M1 Analyse, EDP, probabilités
Lecture : Introduction to spectral analysis

Preliminary warning

This video is a complement to the lecture notes available at

<http://www.u-bordeaux.fr/~pjaming/enseignement/M1.html>

1. Statement of the Spectral Theorem
2. An example
3. Toolbox

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Spectral Theorem for compact self-adjoint operators

Aim: give the main tools to prove the spectral theorem

Theorem (Spectral Theorem)

H separable, infinite dimensional, Hilbert space. $T : H \rightarrow H$ compact, self-adjoint operator.

$\exists (e_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ orthonormal basis of H ;

$\exists (\lambda_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ real, $\lambda_k \rightarrow 0$;

$$Tx = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \lambda_k \langle x, e_k \rangle e_k.$$

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Stability

Throughout H =Hilbert space, $T : H \rightarrow H$ bounded linear.

Observation

If $T = T^*$ and $E \subset H$ closed subspace invariant through $T : T(E) \subset E$ then E^\perp is also stable through T

Proof.

$x \in E, y \in E^\perp$ then $Tx \in E$ and

$$\langle Ty, x \rangle = \left\langle \underbrace{y}_{\in E^\perp}, \underbrace{Tx}_{\in E} \right\rangle = 0$$

that is $Ty \in E^\perp$. □

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Kernel and image

$\ker T$ is stable through T .

Observation

If $T = T^*$, $H = \ker T \oplus \overline{\operatorname{Im} T}$, i.e. $\ker T = \operatorname{Im} T^\perp$ i.e. $(\ker T)^\perp = \overline{\operatorname{Im} T}$.

Proof.

$x \in \operatorname{Im} T^\perp$ means $\forall y \in H$

$$0 = \langle x, Ty \rangle = \langle Tx, y \rangle$$

$\Leftrightarrow Tx = 0$ i.e. $x \in \ker T$. □

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Reduction to one-to-one operators

π_0 , \perp -proj on $\ker T$, $I - \pi_0$ \perp -proj on $\overline{\text{Im } T}$ then (with previous observation)

$$T = \pi_0 T \pi_0 + (I - \pi_0) T (I - \pi_0)$$

both are self adjoint and compact if T is.

$(I - \pi_0) T (I - \pi_0)$ is $T : \overline{\text{Im } T} \rightarrow \overline{\text{Im } T}$ and is one-to-one.

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Spectral theorem - comments

one can also interpret this as T having a matrix of the form

	$\ker T$	E_1	E_2	\dots
		$e_{1,1}, \dots, e_{n_1,1}$	$e_{1,2}, \dots, e_{n_2,2}$	
$\ker T$	0	0	0	\dots
$e_{1,1}$		λ_1	0	
\vdots	0	\ddots		0
$e_{n_1,1}$		0	λ_1	
$e_{1,2}$			λ_2	0
\vdots	0		\ddots	
$e_{n_2,2}$			0	λ_2
				\ddots
	0	0		0
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Eigenvalues are real

Observation

If $T = T^*$, and λ eigenvalue: $\exists x \in H, x \neq 0$ s.t. $Tx = \lambda x$ then $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda \|x\|^2 &= \langle \lambda x, x \rangle = \langle Tx, x \rangle = \langle x, Tx \rangle \\ &= \langle x, \lambda x \rangle = \bar{\lambda} \|x\|^2.\end{aligned}$$



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Eigenspaces are orthogonal

Observation

If $T = T^*$, $\lambda \neq \mu$, $E_\lambda = \ker(T - \lambda I)$, E_μ corresponding eigenspaces then $E_\lambda \perp E_\mu$

Proof.

$x \in E_\lambda, y \in E_\mu$

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda \langle x, y \rangle &= \langle \lambda x, y \rangle = \langle Tx, y \rangle = \langle x, Ty \rangle \\ &= \langle x, \mu y \rangle = \bar{\mu} \langle x, y \rangle = \mu \langle x, y \rangle\end{aligned}$$



$E_\mu \subset E_\lambda^\perp$ and E_μ = eigenspace for eigenvalue μ of $(I - \pi_\lambda)T(I - \pi_\lambda)$ i.e. of T restricted to E_λ^\perp

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Eigenvalues exist

Lemma

If $T \neq 0$ is *compact, self-adjoint* then either $\|T\|$ or $-\|T\|$ is an eigenvalue

Proof: $\alpha := \|T\|$ then

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^2 &= \sup\{\|Tx\|^2 : \|x\| = 1\} = \sup\{\langle Tx, Tx \rangle : \|x\| = 1\} \\ &= \sup\{\langle T^2x, x \rangle : \|x\| = 1\}.\end{aligned}$$

$\exists x_n, \|x_n\| = 1, \langle T^2x_n, x_n \rangle \rightarrow \alpha^2.$

$$\begin{aligned}\|T^2x_n - \alpha^2x_n\|^2 &= \|T^2x_n\|^2 - 2\alpha^2\Re\langle T^2x_n, x_n \rangle + \alpha^4\|x_n\|^4 \\ &\leq \|T\|^4\|x_n\|^2 - 2\alpha^2\Re\langle T^2x_n, x_n \rangle + \alpha^4\|x_n\|^4 \\ &= 2\alpha^4 - 2\alpha^2\Re\langle T^2x_n, x_n \rangle \rightarrow 0.\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^2 &= \sup\{\|Tx\|^2 : \|x\| = 1\} = \sup\{\langle Tx, Tx \rangle : \|x\| = 1\} \\ &= \sup\{\langle T^2x, x \rangle : \|x\| = 1\}.\end{aligned}$$

$\exists x_n, \|x_n\| = 1, \langle T^2x_n, x_n \rangle \rightarrow \alpha^2.$

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T compact $\Rightarrow T^2$ compact, $x_n \in B$, $\|T^2x_n - \alpha^2x_n\|^2 \rightarrow 0$

Go to subsequence $(T^2x_{n_k})$ converges x_{n_k} also. x the limit, $\|x\| = 1$
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Rewrite this as $(T + \alpha I)(T - \alpha I)x = 0$

Case 1: $(T - \alpha I)x = 0$ that is $Tx = \alpha x$, α is an eigenvalue.

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Eigenspaces have finite dimension

Observation

If T is compact, each eigenspace E_λ ($\lambda \neq 0$) has *finite dimension*.

Proof.

$(e_k)_{k \in I}$ O.N.B of E_λ , $Te_k = \lambda e_k$. If $k \neq \ell$, $\|Te_k - Te_\ell\| = |\lambda|\sqrt{2} \neq 0$.
Can not extract convergent subsequence (if I infinite)
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That's all!

Thank you for your attention!

Next video: The proof.

<http://www.u-bordeaux.fr/~pjaming/enseignement/M1.html>

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